



THE
CONNOISSEUR.

By Mr. T O W N,

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*Quicquid agant homines, votum, timor, ira, voluptas,
Gaudia, discursus, nostri farrago libelli.*

Juv.



W H E N I first resolv'd on appearing in my present character, I had some thoughts of making my public entry in the front of one or other of our News-papers; as I considered that the domestic occurrences, which compose a part of their equipage, would make no bad figure in my own retinue. Some reflections on the modish methods of gaming would receive an additional confirmation from a paragraph in the News, that "last tuesday a game at Whist was played at *White's* for 1000l. a corner," "or that the match between his Grace the Duke of — and "Lord — was decided at *Newmarket*:" and a dissertation on the luxury of the present age would be very aptly

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illustrated

illustrated by an exact account of the weight of the Turtle, dressed a few days before for the gentlemen of the above-mentioned Chocolate-house.

INDEED I have always looked upon the works of Mr. *Jennour* in the *Daily Advertiser* as a kind of supplement to the intelligence of Mr. TOWN; as containing a more minute account of the important transactions of that class of mankind, which has been figuratively stiled *The World*. From these daily registers you may not only learn, when any body is married or hanged, but you have immediate notice, whenever his Grace goes to *Newmarket*, or her Ladyship sets out for *Bath*: and but last week, at the same time that the gentlemen of the law were told that the Lord Chancellor could not sit in the Court of Chancery, people of fashion had the melancholy news that Signor *Ricciarelli* was not able to sing.

NOR is that part of Mr. *Jennour's* lucubrations, which is allotted to Advertisements, less amusing and entertaining: and many of these articles might very properly come under my cognisance. It is here debated, whether the prize of eloquence should be given to Orator *Macklin* or Orator *Henley*; and whether Mr. *Stephen Pitts* is not the best qualified to furnish gentlemen and ladies libraries with tea-chests in *Octavo*, and close-stools in *Folio*. And besides the public notices to persons of taste, of very rare old Japan, and most curious and inimitable *Epargnes* for deserts, as also the most rich and elegant fancied silks to be sold by auction; many other advices, not less interesting to the Town, are here given. We are daily put in mind, that Mrs. *Phillips* at the Green Canister still hopes for the favours of her former good customers as usual: that next door to *Had-*
dock's

dock's is sold an antidote against the poison imbibed at that bagnio: that Dr. *Rock* infallibly cures a certain epidemical distemper by virtue of the King's Patent: that a learned physician and surgeon will privately accommodate any gentleman (as the Doctor modestly expresses it in his own *Latin*) *Pro Morbus Veneria curandus*: and that Y. Z. a regular-bred surgeon and man-midwife, together with fifty others, will accommodate gentlewomen, that are under a necessity of lying in privately.

BUT not only the public transactions of Auctioneers, Brokers, and Horse-dealers, but the most private concerns of pleasure and gallantry may be also carried on by means of this paper. Assignations are here made, and the most secret intrigues formed, at the expence of two shillings. If a genteel young body, who can do all kinds of work, wants a place, she will be sure to hear of a master by advertising: Any gentleman and lady of *unexceptionable character* may meet with lodgings to be let, and no questions asked. How often has *Romeo* declared in print his unspeakable passion for the charming *Peachy*! How many gentlemen have made open professions of the strictest honour and secrecy! And how many ladies, dressed in such a manner, and seen at such a place, have been desired to leave a line for *A. B.* Before the late Marriage Act it was very usual for young gentlemen and ladies (possessed of every qualification requisite to make the marriage state happy) to offer themselves as a good bargain to each other; and men took the same measures of advertising to get an agreeable companion for life, as they do for an agreeable companion in a post-chaise. As this traffick in matrimony is now prohibited, it has given occasion to the opening a new branch of trade; and since husbands and wives are hardly to be got for love or money, several good-natured females have set themselves up to sale

to

to the best bidder. The *Daily Advertiser* is therefore become the universal register for new faces; and every day's advertisements are crowded with offers of young ladies, who would be glad of the company of any elderly gentleman, to pass his leisure hours with them, and *play at cards*.

I LOOK upon the common intelligence in our public papers, with the long train of advertisements annexed to it, as the best account of the present domestic state of *England*, that can possibly be compiled: nor do I know any thing, which would give posterity so clear an idea of the taste and morals of the present age, as a bundle of our daily papers. They would here see what books are most read, what are our chief amusements and diversions: and when they should observe the daily inquiries after eloped wives and apprentices, and the frequent accounts of trials in *Westminster Hall* for perjury, adultery, &c. they might form a tolerable notion even of our private life. Among many other reasons for lamenting that the art of printing was not more early discovered, I cannot but regret that we have perhaps lost many accounts of this nature, which might otherwise have been handed down to us. With what pleasure should we have perused an *Athenian Advertiser*, or a *Roman Gazetteer*! A curious critic or antiquarian would place them on the same shelf with the Classics, and would be highly pleased at discovering what days *Tully* went to his *Tusculum*, or *Pliny* to his magnificent *Villa*; who was the capital singer at the *Grecian Opera*, and in what characters *Roscius* appeared with most success. These pieces of intelligence would undoubtedly give great satisfaction; and I am myself acquainted with a very learned gentleman, who has assured me, that he has been as much delighted at discovering that the *Soffi* were *Horace's* bookfellers, that the *Hecyra* of *Terence* was damned, and other little particulars
of

of that nature, as with an account of the destruction of *Carthage*, or the death of *Cæsar*. We should also be glad to collect from their advertisements what things were most in request at *Athens* and *Rome*. Even our papers, (which perhaps are called *Daily* from their lasting but a day) are, I fear, of too fugitive a nature to fall under the inspection of posterity. To remedy, in some measure, this inconvenience, I shall now conclude my paper with a few advertisements, which if they have not actually been inserted in our papers, are at least of the same nature with those, that daily have a place there.

To be spoke with every Day at his House in the Old Baily,

B R Y A N R A P A W A Y,

WHO swears Oaths of and Kinds are Prices, and will procure positive Evidence at a Day's Warning in all Sorts of Causes. He will contract with any Attorney or Quack-Doctor to swear by the Quarter; and will supply *Affidavits*, &c. on the most reasonable Terms.

* * *He will attend, during the Business of Elections and Double Returns, in the Lobby of the House of Commons, and will ply next Term at Westminster Hall.*

W A N T E D,

A Genteel Black or Negro Girl, very handsome; with a soft Skin, good Teeth, sweet Breath, at least five Feet three Inches high, and not above Eighteen. Whoever has such a Girl to dispose of, may hear of a Gentleman who will give fifty Guineas for her, by applying at the Bar of the *Shakespeare's Head Tavern, Covent-Garden*.

Note, None but principals will be treated with. At the same Place any genteel White Girl may hear of something to her Advantage.

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WANTS

WANTS A PLACE,

A Young Man, well acquainted with *Arithmetic, Merchants Accounts, &c.* would be glad to serve any Gentleman as Steward or Rent-gatherer: He is also very well acquainted with *Algebra*, and would be of great Service to any Gentleman by assisting him in hedging his Bets. Direct for X. Y. at the *Mount Coffee-House, Grosvenor-Street.*

L O S T,

From about a Lady's Person, who went to mob it at Drury-Lane Playhouse one Night last Week,

A Plumper for the Cheek, a Bolster for the Hip, three very white even Teeth, and one Eyebrow. Whoever has found the above Things, and will leave them at Mrs. Mechlin's, Milliner, in *New Bond Street*, shall have five Guineas Reward, and no Questions asked.

This Day are published,

THE Adventures of *Dick Hazard*; the History of Mr. *Joshua Trueman*, and Miss *Peggy Williams*; the History of *Will Ramble*; *The Invisible SPY*; *The CARD*; the Travels of *Drake Morris*; Memoirs of the *Shakespeare's Head*; *Jasper Banks*; *Frank Hammond*; and **MATRIMONY**: And speedily will be published, The History of Sir *Humphrey Herald* and Sir *Edward Haunch*; Memoirs of *Lady Vainlove*; Adventures of *Tom Doughty*; *Jack Careless*; *Frank Easy*; *Dick Damnable*; *Molly Peirson*; &c. &c. &c. being a complete Collection of NOVELS for the Amusement of the present Winter.

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